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ABSTRACT

Recognizing the compelling language of imagery available in the drawings of children who have been sexually abused, this book focuses on the link between sexual abuse during the latency period and specific developmental problems. Chapter 1, "Paradigms of Trauma and Sexual Abuse," presents sexual abuse as an external event associated with a dissociative state, self-esteem mutilation, and mood disturbances. Chapter 2, "General Principles in the Analysis of Projective Drawings," discusses drawings as a projective tool, developmental aspects, specific information on the House, Tree, Person, and Kinetic Family Drawing measures, and results of a pilot study of projective drawings to suggest sexual abuse. Chapter 3, "The Projections of Ego Functions of Sexually Abused Children," examines latency developmental problems in sexually abused children, including problems in organizing defenses, sublimating drives, identifying with the aggressor, inhibiting self-caring functions, and cognitive dysfunctions. Chapter 4, "Aberrations in the Superego of Sexually Molested Youngsters," discusses problems in superego development, especially the absence of anticipatory guilt, identification with delinquent values, guilt displacement, and the rigid superego. Chapter 5, "The Incestuous Family's Influence on the Development of Object Relations During Latency," examines characteristics of the incestuous family and problems in object relation development. Chapter 6, "Adult Survivors: The Long-Term Effects of Childhood Sexual Abuse," discusses ego dysfunctions, superego aberrations, and object relations disturbances in adult survivors. The book includes case study analyses of over 150 pieces of art. (Contains approximately 170 references.) (KDFB)

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